

AMENDMENTS

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (Presently amended) An isolated antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: MRIHYLLFALLFLFLVPVPGHGGIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRC AVL SCLPKEEQI GK CSTRGRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 2), wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Presently amended) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 2~~1~~, wherein said ~~pharmaceutically acceptable~~pharmaceutical composition includes a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Presently amended) A method of inhibiting growth of a microbe comprising introducing into an environment an antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: MRIHYLLFALLFLFLVPVPGHGGIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRC AVL SCLPKEEQI GK CSTRGR KCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 2) , TLQKYYCRVRGGRC AVL SCLPKEEQI GK CSTRGRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 3), or GIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRC AVL SCLPKEEQI GK CSTRGRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 4), wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.

7. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said peptide is introduced in a composition capable of sustaining the antimicrobial properties of said peptide in said environment.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising introducing an additional antimicrobial agent into said environment.
10. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is introduced before said additional antimicrobial agent.
11. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial peptide and said additional antimicrobial agent are introduced concurrently.
12. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is introduced after said additional antimicrobial agent.
13. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said additional antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of a protein synthesis inhibitor, a cell wall growth inhibitor, a cell membrane synthesis inhibitor, a nucleic acid synthesis inhibitor, and a competitive inhibitor.
14. (Presently amended) A method of inhibiting growth of a microbe in a host comprising administering to said host an antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence:
MRIHYLLFALLFLFLVPVPGHGGIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRCAVLSCLPKEEQIGKCSTRGR
KCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 2),
TLQKYYCRVRGGRCAVLSCLPKEEQIGKCSTRGRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 3), or
GIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRCAVLSCLPKEEQIGKCSTRGRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 4),
wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.
15. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising administering an additional antimicrobial agent.
16. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is administered before said additional antimicrobial agent.

17. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial peptide and said additional antimicrobial agent are administered concurrently.

18. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is administered after said additional antimicrobial agent.

19. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein said additional antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of a protein synthesis inhibitor, a cell wall growth inhibitor, a cell membrane synthesis inhibitor, a nucleic acid synthesis inhibitor, and a competitive inhibitor.

20-21. (Canceled)

22. (Presently amended) An isolated antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: TLQKYYCRVRGGRC AVL SCLPKEEQIGKCSTRGRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.

23. (Original) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 28, wherein said antimicrobial peptide comprises the amino acid sequence: GIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRC AVL SCLPKEEQIGKCSTR GRKCCRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 4).

24. (Canceled)

25. (Presently amended) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 28, wherein said ~~pharmaceutically acceptable~~pharmaceutical composition includes a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26-27. (Canceled)